

15. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein said internet protocol address remains constant throughout a transaction.

REMARKS

The present invention is directed to a network and method for performing secure transactions. Fraud is present in many computer assisted transactions and the present invention provides a unique means of reducing fraudulent transactions. Applicant has amended claims 3 and 4 to eliminate the Examiner's objection to the claims under Section 112. Applicant has cancelled original claims 1 and 2 and added new claims 5 to 15.

Claims 3- 15 are patentable over the prior art of record because there is no teaching or suggestion of the step of activating a diagnostic program to diagnose on a buyer computer whether the buyer computer has labeled components which can be used for generating a fingerprint file for verifying a buyer computer in future transactions. When the Gottfried patent, U.S. Patent No. 6,270,011 discusses a fingerprint, it is referring to an actual buyer or human fingerprint not a fingerprint of the buyer's computer. In Gottfried the inventor proposes the use of a fingerprint scanner at the point-of-sale to obtain fingerprint data, so that the credit card company database can verify the fingerprint data against stored fingerprint information and verify the transaction. See Column 2, lines 56- 59.

The Ronen patent similarly does not teach or suggest the step of activating a diagnostic program to diagnose on a buyer computer whether the buyer computer has labeled components which can be used for generating a fingerprint file for verifying a buyer computer in

future transactions.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application

Respectfully submitted,



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